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SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No. S. B. D. 7710

Section 2, Special Branch

REPORT

Date December 11, 36.

Subject: Comment on article of the NOVY PUT re: a meeting of the confraternity of the Seventh Day Adventists.

Made by D.S.I. Prokofiev Forwarded by J Boyne DSI

In an article by Mr. Andrei Buteneff published in the "Novy Put" on December 8, 1936, reference is made to the keen disappointment experienced by the author when, instead of a promising lecture entitled "Pyramids and the Bible," which had been extensively advertised by posters etc. in French Town, the public were treated to a religious ceremony on the part of the confraternity of The Seventh Day Adventists led by a Russian lawyer named M/ Shikis. The meeting is described in the article in question in an exceedingly scathing manner which might be considered offensive by members of this particular religious sect.

The meeting referred to above took place on December 6 in The Seventh Day Adventists' church in Avenue Joffre.

The offices of the NOVY PUT, a Russian daily published and edited by Mr. P. A. Ballod, are situated at 706 Avenue Joffre.

DBK 12/12.

Reporting responsible

G. Prokofiev

D.S.I.

D.C. (Special Branch).

SPECIAL BRANCH 14 DEC. 1936

S.B. 11/12 S.2. DBK 14/12

Summarised translation from the Russian daily newspaper NOVY PUT, December 8, 1936. Published and edited by Mr. P. A. Ballod. Editorial and printing offices - 706 Avenue Joffre.

About 150 persons gathered in the Adventists church, Avenue Joffre, the day before yesterday. Apparently, the majority of the audience were attracted by curiosity and by extensive advertising. During ten days preceding the meeting posters announcing a lecture entitled "Pyramids and the Bible" could be seen everywhere in the streets of the French Concession populated by Russians.

Although not a word had been said about it in the posters, the lecture was preceded by a religious service of the sect of Adventists. The service was conducted by ..... Mr. Shikis! This caused an enormous surprise. It would seem that there can be nothing in common between Mr. Shikis and the ignorant fanatics who think that they are living saints. An incredible paradox: Mr. Shikis, a well-educated person, in the role of a leader of religious castrati! Well fed, "peasantly plump" and possessing a very "unspiritual" face Mr. Shikis did not look like a living saint.

Upon Shikis' invitation the sectarians sang several hymns of a sanctimonious character. A "sister" was asked to collect voluntary donations. The service lasted full three quarters of an hour. Then, at last, the lecturer made his appearance.

The author comments briefly on the lecture which, in his opinion, was a very poor one in every respect, and concludes the article with the following remark:-

Of all foreign religious sects which, for reasons unknown, are called rationalistic sects, this particular sect is the most ignorant and obscure. If it can be said that the methodists and baptists, compared with the Western and Eastern Orthodox churches, have very little of RATIO (reason), the adventists have none at all. Their dogma tends towards Judaism of Talmud and, what is most important, is calculated to undermine the normal state of human mind by the

fear of sudden catastrophe of the universe. However, this sect would not attract much attention, if, apart from the features of a religious nature, it did not possess features of a political interest. The activities of the Adventists are of a definitely disintegrating and anti-nationalist character. This should attract the attention of certain quarters, as the activities of these people are much more dangerous than the activities of our former religious sects, such as "dukhobors","Khlysti " and "Skoptsi."

FORM No. 2
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File No.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

Section 1, Special Branch

REPORT

S. B. B. 7710

Date December 31. 1936 / 37

Subject Article of the "NOVY PUT" re: a meeting of the confraternity of the Seventh Day Adventists.

Made by D.S.I. Prokofiev. Forwarded by [signature] A.S.P.

* See also D 1707

With reference to the endorsement of D.C.(Special Branch) on the attached report dated 11-12-36, I have to state that no further articles have so far appeared in the local Russian press on the subject of the confraternity of the Seventh Day Adventists.

It appears that neither Mr. Shikis nor the religious confraternity concerned have taken any steps in connection with this matter.

A. Prokofiev

D.S.I.

D/SB. 31/12

31 DEC. 1936 SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

D.C. (Special Branch)